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Message Text

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50
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCEM-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

SCI-06 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

ACDA-19 IO-15 INT-08 AID-20 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 INRE-00 DRC-01 AF-10 /197 W
---------- 087500
O P 121456Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7993
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14807

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST OIL DEVELOPMENTS: FRG REACTION

REF: STATE 2O2315

1. WE HAVE DRAWN ON REFTEL IN A DISCUSSION TODAY WITH ECONOMICS MINISTRY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LANTZKE ON MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS. LANTZKE WAS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR OUR REPORT, ESPECIALLY ON THE STATUS OF TERMINALS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

2. LANTZKE'S OWN ASSESSMENT WAS THAT CONSUMERS WOULD BE OKAY IF THE SITUATION DID NOT DETERIORATE FURTHER. HE FOUND SOME ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE FACTS THAT 1) CUTBACKS IN CRUDE DELIVERIES SO FAR HAD THEIR BASIS IN PHYSICAL AND TECHNICAL FACTORS, NOT PRODUCER
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GOVERNMENT DECISION AND 2) YAMANI AND THE OPEC

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SECRETARIAT CONTINUED TO TAKE THE PUBLIC LINE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMPANIES HAD NO RELATION TO THE WAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, LANTZKE CONTINUED, THE CALL OF THE KUWAITI'S FOR A CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF OIL IN THE WAR AND YAMANI'S RUMBLINGS ABOUT PRODUCTION LIMITS INDICATED HOW THE RISKS TO PETROLEUM CONSUMERS WOULD INCREASE AS THE WAR DRAGGED ON.

3. LANTZKE NOTED SAUDI REPORTS OF AN URGENT LETTER FROM KING FAISAL TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND SAID THE CONTENTS OF THIS LETTER WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT INDICATION OF JUST WHAT RISKS CONSUMERS FACED.

4. FINALLY, LANTZKE PRESSED FOR AN INDICATION OF WHAT ADVICE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS GIVING THE OIL COMPANIES REGARDING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TEHRAN AGREEMENTS. WE INDICATED WE HAD NO INFORMATION ON ANY U.S. DECISIONS IN THIS REGARD, BUT WE ASSUMED THE COMPANIES WOULD TRY TO BARGAIN FOR TIME, IN THE HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE CONCLUDED AT A TIME WHEN THE SAUDIS IN PARTICULAR WERE UNDER LESS POLITICAL DURESS.
HILLENBRAND

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Draft Date: 12 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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